

Decades Centuries and Millenniums

As adjectives, the words decades, centuries, and millennium represent 10, 100 and 1,000 years respectively.

When used as calendar references, decades, centuries, and millennium have been misidentified because of the Millennium Computer bug in 1999.

Those who celebrated the century ending on December 31, 1999 were a year early.

By rewinding the existing calendar format,

- The first day of the first year was January 1, 1.
- The last day of the first decade was December 31, 10.
- The first day of the second decade was January 1, 11.
- Last day of first century was December 31, 100.
- The millennium ended on December 31, 1000.
- The second millennium ended December 31, 2000.
- The third millennium began January 1, 2001.

The Millennium Bug was due to many databases having allocated only two characters for the year field. The change from year 1999 to 2000 could be interpreted as one-hundred years to programs built with a 2-digit number field, verse the 4-digit field which is needed. Databases were converted to four characters or had workarounds for the problem. There was no crash as many predicted.

The Millennium Bug had nothing to do with the end of decade, century, or millennium.

Just poor computer planning and misidentification in the news media.

The Millennium ended December 31, 2000.

This is now the 19th year of this century.

The second decade ends December 31, 2020.

The century ends December 31, 2100.

The millennium ends December 31, 3000 [not 2999]

Not unlike the misidentification of the 1917 worldwide pandemic calling it the "Spanish Influenza." Only the Spanish had nothing to do with the Pandemic, but it was the Spanish Free Press which first reported the influenza, when the world press decided to keep it quiet to avoid panic.

Thus, it has been misinterpreted.

Decades begin on 01, and end at the completion of year 10.